

LAFAYETTE SCHOOL BOARD
LAFAYETTE REGIONAL SCHOOL
MAIN STREET
FRANCONIA, NH 03580

DATE: APRIL 13, 2017
TIME: 5:30 PM

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Board Members Luther Kinney, Christi Gignac, Amy Mullins, Denys Draper, Chris Thayer; Superintendent Pierre Couture; Business Manager Tina Peabody; Principal Gordie Johnk.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Superintendent Couture.

Superintendent Couture opened the floor to nomination for Board Chairman of the Lafayette School Board. Christi Gignac nominated Luther Kinney to the position of Board Chairman. MOTION BY CHRISTI GIGNAC, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF LUTHER KINNEY TO THE POSITION OF BOARD CHAIRMAN. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED. Superintendent Couture turned the meeting over to Chairman Kinney.

Chairman Kinney opened the floor to nominations for Vice Chairman of the Lafayette School Board. Amy Mullins nominated Christi Gignac as Vice Chairman. MOTION BY LUTHER KINNEY, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF CHRISTI GIGNAC TO THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIRMAN. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC INPUT – None

LPTO REPORT

Amy Mullins advised the Board that the Spelling Bee is scheduled for Friday. The Board Team will consist of Luther Kinney and Chris Thayer. Christi Gignac will also be participating as a member of another team. The judging is all set and pizza will be available.

Amy Mullins advised the Board that the Art Show preparations are progressing. All pictures have been mounted and final arrangements are under way. The Class Gift Baskets are also moving forward.

Amy Mullins advised the Board that Teacher Appreciation Week activities are also moving forward. Additional volunteers to monitor classrooms during the annual luncheon are still being sought.

Amy Mullins advised the Board that the Lafay Award will be presented on Monday of Teacher Appreciation Week during morning meeting.

Luther Kinney and Denys Draper attended the sendoff party for retiring custodian Stan Sawicki. Chairman Kinney presented him with the gift certificate from the Board. Stan was very appreciative.

MOTION BY CHRISTI GIGNAC, SECONDED BY DENYS DRAPER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 9, 2017 MEETING AS WRITTEN. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Principal Johnk called the Board's attention to his written report distributed earlier today via e-mail. If there are any questions on his report, please let him know.

MOTION BY DENYS DRAPER, SECONDED BY CHRISTI GIGNAC TO ENTER INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION AT 5:35 PM UNDER PARAGRAPH II, SECTION 2 OF RSA 91A:3 OF THE RIGHT TO KNOW LAW TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL ISSUES TAKING SUPERINTENDENT COUTURE, BUSINESS MANAGER PEABODY, PRINCIPAL JOHNK. ALL IN FAVOR FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY DENYS DRAPER, SECONDED BY CHRISTI GIGNAC TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION AT 5:44 PM. ALL IN FAVOR FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED.

Principal Johnk distributed copies of his report on Special Education Expenditures not included in the 2016-2017 budget for Board information and review. These expenses include the hiring of a paraprofessional, transportation costs, and costs of a behavior/academic consultant. These additional expenses at this point total \$15,184.00. This amount can be withdrawn from the Special Education Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose which currently has a balance of \$136,301.35. If the Board chooses to do so, it will require a Public Hearing. A brief discussion ensued.

Principal Johnk updated the Board on the search for a Kindergarten Teacher for the 2017-2018 school year replacing Beverly Frenkiewich who is retiring at the end of the current school year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Couture recommended the nomination of Hallie Mabrey to the position of Kindergarten Teacher for the 2017-2018 school year. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY AMY MULLINS, SECONDED BY DENYS DRAPER TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF HALLIE MABREY TO THE POSITION OF KINDERGARTEN TEACHER FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR AS RECOMMENDED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent Couture distributed copies of the Professional Staff Nominations for the 2017-2018 school year for Board information and review. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY CHRIS THAYER, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS TO APPROVE THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR (COPY ATTACHED) AS RECOMMENDED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that it is time to renew their membership in NCES (North Country Education Services) for the 2017-2018 school year. Currently Lafayette has an associate membership. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY CHRIS THAYER, SECONDED BY CHRISTI GIGNAC TO APPROVE THE 2017-2018 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP IN NCES AT A COST OF \$1,136.34 AS RECOMMENDED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that Principal Jellison of Profile School has been working with Principal Johnk and Bethlehem Principal Roberts seeking a way to allow Profile to start school later in the morning. Statistics show that high school aged students have a different sleep pattern and that starting later would be of benefit. Currently Profile begins school at 7:40 AM which is the earliest in the SAU. In conjunction with the other principals and the bus company, a plan has been devised to have the elementary schools start prior to Profile – in essence flipping the schedule. This will not affect Lafayette in the morning but will add approximately five minutes +/- at the end of the day. The next step is to take a survey of Profile parents. The Board will be kept updated as this process emerges.

Superintendent Couture updated the Board on Adequacy Aid. The “voucher” bill is now back in the house having been passed by the senate. There is still concern that this is unconstitutional as it involves private and parochial school as well. Also the bill offers the same opportunities to home school students which poses another problems for school districts. Currently there is no accountability for home school students and there would be no way to track what the monies are used for.

Superintendent Couture advised the board that the Full Day Kindergarten portion of Adequacy Aid originally dropped as it was included in the governor's budget is now back in committee. This would afford eligible Districts the additional funding of \$1,750.00 per Kindergarten student. There appears to be opposition to this by the senate so it will remain a waiting game to see how this progresses.

Superintendent Couture advised the Board that the Administrative Team's main focus continues to be PACE. As previously discussed, the Profession Development Day was moved from March to May 15th. All teachers will be working on double scoring per grade level and subject area. This will not apply to all tests but will focus on eighteen SAU wide.

Superintendent Couture reminded the Board that the Full Board May Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 6:00 PM in the AHEAD Conference Room located upstairs from the SAU Office. It is extremely important that all Boards be represented at this meeting. The SAU Staff for the 2017-2018 school year will be nominated/appointed at this meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Manifests were circulated for Board review and signature.

Business Manager Tina Peabody distributed copies of the Financial Reports for Board information and review noting that the current projected end of the year balance is (\$16,163.38). As discussed earlier in the meeting, this deficit is primarily due to unanticipated special education expenses. Ms. Peabody also reported that there is approximately \$13,000.00 in E-rate monies due to the district. There are also purchase orders which will not be used whose encumbrances can be released back to the general fund and the potential to withdraw unanticipated special education expenses from the Capital Reserve Fund. Taking all these variables into consideration the district should finish the year in the black with the proposed beginning balance of \$25,000.00 intact. A brief discussion ensued. The Board will make a decision at the May meeting and if monies are needed from the Special Educating Capital Reserve Fund, a hearing will be held prior to the June Board meeting on Thursday, June 8, 2017.

Business Manager Peabody distributed School Lunch Reports for Board information and review noting that the expenses are down which should result in the district needing less than the budgeted amount of \$13,000.00 at year's end. MS Peabody is currently thinking the need will be between \$5,000 and \$8,000. A brief discussion ensued.

Business Manager Peabody advised the Board that it is time for the three years AHERA Inspection at a cost of \$700.00. Also, Head Custodian Gerry Drapeau will need training which is an additional cost as well. The full custodial staff also needs to participate in an annual training. The cost for this is \$395.00 for up to eight people and Lafayette can piggyback with Lisbon for this training. The three year AHERA Inspection will be provided by the Lawson Group. Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY CHRIS THAYER, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS TO APPROVE THE AHERA INSPECTION CONTRACT WITH THE LAWSON GROUP FOR A COST OF \$700.00 AND AUTHORIZE SUPERINTENDENT COUTURE TO SIGN THE CONTRACT. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

BOARD REPORTS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chairman Kinney advised the Board that the Executive Board did not meet in April.

BUDGET – No Report

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Principal Johnk advised that Head Custodian Gerry Drapeau is doing an excellent job. There is a steep learning curve for this position and thus far he has met all requirements.

Principal Johnk advised the Board that a new part-time custodian for evenings has been hired and is working out quite well. Greg Basner also manages the cafeteria at BES.

NEGOTIATIONS/PERSONNEL

Chairman Kinney advised the Board that the new Negotiated Agreement is in the hands of the union for review.

POLICIES / PROCEDURES

Christi Gignac presented the following policies for first reading:

IHBA	Programs for Students with Disabilities
IHBAA	Evaluation Requirements for Children with Specific Learning Disabilities

Following a brief discussion, MOTION BY CHRIS THAYER, SECONDED BY AMY MULLINS TO APPROVE THE AFOREMENTIONED POLICIES FOR FIRST READING. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Christi Gignac advised the Board that she anticipates receiving the NHSBA Spring Policy Updates in May

There being no additional business to come before the Board, MOTION BY AMY MULLINS, SECONDED BY CHRISTI GIGNAC TO ADJOURN AT 6:45 PM. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Brown
Board Clerk